

## CLAIMS

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point changing means for allowing change of each of said data holding portions in said point storing means between a first state and a second state in accordance with an externally applied point changing instruction; and

determining means for determining whether said changing means should be allowed to change the points or not, based on said first and second cryptograms.

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4. ~~(Deleted)~~

5. (Amended) A method of using a portable point storing member, comprising the steps of:

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storing, in advance, points corresponding to moneys, a first cryptogram set by a first person concerned with manufacturing of said point storing member and a second cryptogram set by a second person different from said first person and concerned with use of said point storing member; reading the points stored in said point storing member in accordance with an externally applied read instruction; and changing said points in accordance with an externally applied point changing instruction, wherein

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changing of the points in a direction of increasing the points based on said point changing instruction is performed after determining whether said point changing instruction is to be followed or not, based on said first and second cryptograms.

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6. ~~(Deleted)~~

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7. (Amended) A method of using a portable point storing member, comprising the steps of:

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storing points corresponding to moneys in the point storing member having portability; reading the points stored in said point storing member in accordance with an externally applied read instruction; and changing said points in accordance with an externally applied point changing instruction, wherein

said point storing member has data holding portions corresponding in number to said points,

said point storing member stores the points in accordance with the states of the respective data holding portions, and is allowed to change only from the first state to the second state,

5      said point storing member stores, in advance, point rewrite information,

said point rewrite information includes a first cryptogram set by a first person concerned with manufacturing of said point storing member and a second cryptogram set by a second person different from said first person and concerned with use of said point storing member, and

10      said point storing member is used such that each of said data holding portions is changed from the second state to the first state only when applied information matches with said point rewrite information.

15      8. (Amended) The method of using the portable point storing member according to claim 7, wherein

said point rewrite information is supplied such that data relating to said first cryptogram is supplied in accordance with timing different from that of supply of data relating to said second cryptogram.

20      9. (Amended) A point storing member comprising:  
storing means for storing points;

a first cryptogram storing portion storing a first cryptogram set by a first person concerned with manufacturing of said point storing member;

25      a second cryptogram storing portion storing a second cryptogram set by a second person different from said first person and concerned with use of said point storing member;

changing means for changing the points stored in said storing means;

30      input means for receiving data to be verified; and

comparing means for comparing the data received via said input means with said first and second cryptograms, wherein

it is determined whether said changing means should increase said points or not, based on a result of the comparison by said comparing means.

35      10. (Deleted)